

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A water soluble adduct resulting from free radical solution polymerization of an unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer and an unsaturated hydroxyl monomer, the polymerization conducted in the presence of a chain transfer agent.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Withdrawn) The water soluble adduct of claim 2 wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer is selected from aconitic acid, itaconic acid, maleic acid, acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, an adduct of citric acid and maleic acid, crotonic acid, isocrotonic acid, citraconic acid, and maleic anhydride.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Withdrawn) The water soluble adduct of claim 4 wherein the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer is selected from allyl lactate, hydroxyethyl acrylate, hydroxyethyl methacrylate, hydroxypropyl acrylate hydroxypropyl methacrylate, 2-allyloxy ethanol, vinyl acetate, glycidyl acrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, allyl glycidyl ether, and allyl glycidol.
6. (Withdrawn) The water soluble adduct of claim 1 wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer and the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer are provided in an amount to maintain a mole ratio of -COOH contributed by the monomeric unsaturated carboxylic acid

component to -OH contributed by the monomeric unsaturated hydroxyl component (-COOH:-OH) in the range of about 10:1 to 1:10.

7. (Withdrawn) The water soluble adduct of claim 6 wherein the mole ratio is in the range of 1.5:1 to 0.7:1.
8. (Withdrawn) The water soluble adduct of claim 1 wherein the chain transfer agents is selected from allyloxypropane diol, thioglycol, mercaptans, an adduct of rosin and maleic acid, an adduct of rosin and fumaric acid and an adduct or rosin and maleic anhydride.

9-19 (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn-previously presented) A method for binding together a loosely associated mat of glass fibers comprising (1) contacting said glass fibers with the aqueous binder composition of one of claims 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, or 34 and (2) heating said aqueous binder composition at an elevated temperature sufficient to effect cure.
21. (Withdrawn-previously presented) A method for binding together a loosely associated mat of glass fibers comprising (1) contacting said glass fibers with the aqueous binder composition of claim 35 and (2) heating said aqueous binder composition at an elevated temperature sufficient to effect cure.
22. (Withdrawn-previously presented) A glass fiber product obtained by curing the aqueous binder composition of one of claims 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, or 34 applied to a mat of nonwoven glass fibers.
23. (Withdrawn-previously presented) A glass fiber product obtained by curing the aqueous binder composition of claim 35 applied to a mat of nonwoven glass fibers.
24. (Withdrawn) The glass fiber product of claim 22 wherein the glass fiber product is a fiberglass insulation product.

25. (Withdrawn) The glass fiber product of claim 23 wherein the glass fiber product is a fiberglass insulation product.
26. (Withdrawn – previously presented) A method for increasing wet strength of paper comprising (1) contacting said paper with the aqueous binder composition of claim 27 and (2) heating said aqueous binder composition at an elevated temperature sufficient to effect cure.
27. (Currently amended) An aqueous binder composition for making glass fiber products comprising a water soluble adduct resulting from an aqueous free radical solution polymerization of an unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer having a molecular weight of less than 750 and an unsaturated hydroxyl monomer having a molecular weight of less than 750, the polymerization conducted in the presence of a chain transfer agent, wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer and the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer are provided in an amount (1) so that the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer and the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer comprise a major portion by weight of said water soluble adduct and (2) to maintain a mole ratio of –COOH contributed by the monomeric unsaturated carboxylic acid component to –OH contributed by the monomeric unsaturated hydroxyl component (-COOH:-OH) in the range of 1.5:1 to 0.7:1.
28. (Previously presented) The aqueous binder composition of claim 27 wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer is selected from aconitic acid, itaconic acid, maleic acid, acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, an adduct of citric acid and maleic acid, crotonic acid, isocrotonic acid, citraconic acid, and maleic anhydride.
29. (Previously presented) The aqueous binder composition of claim 28 wherein the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer is selected from allyl lactate, hydroxyethyl acrylate, hydroxyethyl methacrylate, hydroxypropyl acrylate hydroxypropyl methacrylate, 2-allyloxy ethanol, vinyl acetate, glycidyl acrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, allyl glycidyl ether, and allyl glycidol.

30. (Canceled)
31. (Canceled)
32. (Previously presented) The aqueous binder composition of claim 27 wherein the chain transfer agents is selected from allyloxypropane diol, thioglycol, mercaptans, an adduct of rosin and maleic acid, an adduct of rosin and fumaric acid and an adduct or rosin and maleic anhydride.
33. (Previously presented) The aqueous binder composition of claim 27 wherein the free radical solution polymerization also is conducted in the presence of an anionic or cationic ethylenically unsaturated monomer.
34. (Previously presented) The aqueous binder composition of claim 27 wherein the free radical solution polymerization also is conducted in the presence of a hydrophobic comonomer.
35. (Previously presented) An aqueous binder composition of claims 27, 29, 32, 33, or 34 also comprising a crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of a saturated hydroxy-acid, a polyol, a polycarboxylic acid, a polyamine, a polyamide, a polyaminoamide, and a polyester.
36. (NEW) The aqueous binder of claim 27 wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer and the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer comprise at least 55.5 percent by weight of said water soluble adduct.
37. (NEW) The aqueous binder of claim 36 wherein the unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer is selected from the group consisting of maleic anhydride and maleic acid.
38. (NEW) The aqueous binder of claim 37 wherein the unsaturated hydroxyl monomer comprises hydroxyethyl acrylate.

39. (NEW) The aqueous binder of claim 38 wherein the free radical solution polymerization also is conducted in the presence of an anionic or cationic ethylenically unsaturated monomer.
40. (NEW) The aqueous binder of claim 39 wherein the free radical solution polymerization also is conducted in the presence of sodium para-styrene sulfonic acid.